Vice Fields of the World

Jn.4:35 Lift up your eyes and look on the fields, that they are white already unto harvest."

Enroute to and from presbytery we noticed the stands of grain. Now they are ready for cutting. Towards Dixon. These fields of grain are becoming dead ripe and need immediate attention.

Read text. This was X's picture of the world' spiritual need. Into this picture the Master Artist paints two outstanding ideas- theone is urgency and the other entreaty. Was there ever such urgency? The world is crying, "We must be garnered or we perish." It is a race with death. There is no time for delay.

The experience of Jesus with the woman at the well but a common one. The everlasting push and go of the worl world today is evidence of a search for something not yet found, an urge in the soul of man bent on a quest not yet realized.

In this picture there is entreaty also. The heart of Christ is pleading for those for whom he died. It is the ~~agony~~ sight of souls whose day will fade into night, and whose chance will perish unless the reapers come. It is the agony of God in travail for His own whom He loves. Shall we turn away from the Cross where we have been loosed from our sins and say, "Let Him call, I will not answer; let Him agonize, I do not care; let God travail for souls, why should I care? Let them perish, why should I be disturbed?

I. The white fields of the world are the non-Xn nations

Those who study the N.T. seeking to know only the will of X have no difficulty in reaching the conclusi that the business of the church is the evangelism of the world. "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature" is a command that can neither be repealed or ignored. The field is the world.

The field is not the church. The church is the force, the means, the agency thru which God seeks to reach all His children of earth.

The church does not exist for its own entertai ment or profit. Worship is not the end of the Churc Nor is Culture or Service.

The Church is the organized, militant, aggressive, evangelistic passion of Calvary. The Church lifts up the Cross which is the passion of God for a

lost world.

Some regard this as fanatical and unnecessary. They do not believe in Foreign Missions.
They regard any religion as good enough.
They dont believe in interfering with the religions of other peoples.

But people who read and think and travel with their eyes open no longer sneer at missionaries.
They are finding that the problems of humanity the world over are one.
The problems of the East and of the West are the same.
The wrongs of China are America's wrongs also.
The follies and perils of France are not national but international.
It is not possible to maintain a civilization one half of which is pagan and hate and the other half Xn and love.
People who think and seek information and travel about with seeiny eyes tell us that the real statesmen of the world are our Xn missionaries, who are planting theseeds of Xn virtues in all the world and are expressing brotherhood in service thru schools, coleges, hospitals, industrial enterprises as well as thru a truer worship of the One Living God.

The Pagan nations themselves no longer oppose the missionaries, but welcome them and in many instances even support them.
Time was when missionaries were called foreign devils. They are called that no longer. The missionary is not only tolerated by pagans today, but he is made welcome. And why? Because he has become the confidential advisor of the mayors of cities and of the governors of provinces who seek to translate into the life of their country some of the things that have blest our western civilization.
The non- Xn nations themselves are coming to see that the civilization they need cannot be built on the Koran of the teachings of Confucius or on the mysticism of Budha. It must come thru Christ.

We are also learning very rapidly that no program of world reconciliation which leaves out Christ and what His Gospel stands for can possibly hope to succeed.

3. Without internation conscience and good will and trust no world peace can be maintained.
The Golden Rule alone can usher in the Golden Age of Universal Peace, on earth.

The growth of the missionary enterprize has been phenominal and much has been accomplished, but

The faster it grows the more behind it becomes! The more we invest in the Missionary Enterprise the heavier in debt our Boards of Missions seem to get. Why? Because the more missionary work we do among pagan peoples the greater demand for the Gospel becomes. In short, we cannot keep up with the demand. The harvest indeed is plentious, but the laborers are few, oh, so few

Conclusion. If it be true that the paganism of the world must ~~be/supplanted by~~ give way to Xty if we are to accomplish the great object of civilization- the Kingdom of God's justice, goodness and love on earth- we can readily understand that our job at home has not been finished by any means. For here in America we still have a great amount of paganism flourishing.

The paganism in our cities.
among our foreign elements
among the mountaineers of thesouth
The negroes and the Indians.
among our own church members.

The prayer-meeting at San Jose.

Increase of Churches in Am. Last yr - 2 1/8 %
Since 1900 - Australasia with Netherlands Indies 45 - 39% increase
Africa - 196% "
Latin Am. 178% "
Asia 145%
China - 25 1/2 %
India 115 %
Japan 214 %
Korea 3246 %
3 1/2 millions Protestant Xns among Japanese
Americanization Society - Nothing Communities